

Remarks

The Official Action mailed February 18, 2005 rejected claims 1-19. Applicant has cancelled claims 1 and 4, amended claims 2-3, 6-7, and 9-11 and added new claims 20-21. Claims 2-3 and 5-21 remain pending.

Disqualifying Reference Under 35 USC 103(c)

Application 09/821,116 and Pomerantz (US Patent No. 6,567,953) were, at the time the invention of Application 09/821,116 was made, owned by or subject to an obligation of assignment to Intel Corporation. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. 102(e) reference of Pomerantz (US Patent No. 6,567,953) is disqualified as prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The Official Action rejected claim 1, as being anticipated by Runaldue et. al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,999,441). Applicant has canceled claim 1.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103 (Pomerantz)

The Official Action rejected claims 2-19 as being unpatentable over Pomerantz (US Patent 6,567,953) in view of Runaldue. Claim 4 has been canceled.

As indicated above Pomerantz does not qualify as prior art under 35 USC 103 due to common ownership at the time of invention of Application 09/821,116. Accordingly, the proposed combination is improper. Therefore Applicant respectfully requests the present rejection of claims 2-3 and 5-19.

Newly Added Claims

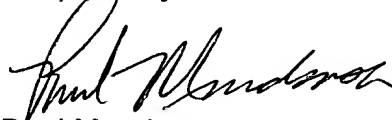
Applicant has added new claims 20-21 which include novel and non-obvious limitations not taught by the cited art. In order to expedite the prosecution of the present application, Applicant points out that newly added claim 20 requires receiving data of a single write command wherein the data comprises a bit enable field and a data field. While Runaldue may teach a bit enable decoder logic 18 to enable bit-by-bit writing based upon a mask, Runaldue does not appear to teach transferring the mask and the data in a single write command. Accordingly, Runaldhue does not disclose receiving data of a single write command wherein the data comprises a bit enable field and a data field as required by the Applicant's claim 20.

Conclusion

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action. Applicant submits that all remaining claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is requested, and allowance of all remaining claims is earnestly solicited.

Should it be determined that an additional fee is due under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17, or any excess fee has been received, please charge that fee or credit the amount of overcharge to deposit account 02-2666. If the Examiner believes that there are any informalities which can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned at (503) 439-8778 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On: May 18, 2005

Signature

Rachael Brown

Date

Drawing Amendments

Please amend Fig. 2, as reflected in the attached replacement sheet for Fig. 2.

In particular, the label "To ICH 130" has been changed to --To MCH 103-- and the label "ICH 130" has been added to the largest block of FIG. 2.